

Disabilities Advisory Council

The Disabilities Advisory Council (DAC) provides a forum on issues pertaining to disabilities. The Council coordinates comprehensive social services; identifies, collects and analyzes data; and assesses and prioritizes the resources and needs within Mercer County. In addition, the Council advocates for the consumer as a means to improve the quality of services for residents with disabilities.

The Council meets quarterly and is composed of eleven volunteers, many of whom have a Disability, as well as those working in disability services.

For more information on the Department of Human Services, please call (609) 989-6526



Brian M. Hughes
Mercer County Executive

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Director, Department of Human Services

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The Mercer County Department of Human Services is a county government agency that serves as an advocate for all Mercer County residents and includes:

Community Services Division
Community Centers and Childcare Services
Homeless Services
Office on Aging
Office on Children and Youth Services
Office for the Disabled
Health and Behavioral Health Division
Health Office
Municipal Alliance Office
Office on Addiction Services
Office of Mental Health Services
Mercer County Library System

OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

*We empower people with
disabilities*



BRIAN M. HUGHES
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

640 South Broad St.
Trenton, NJ 08650
(609) 989-6468

www.mercercounty.org
<http://nj.gov/counties/mercerc/departments/hs/disability.html>

*The **MERCER COUNTY AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION (ADRC)** is a collaborative effort with other government, public and private agencies that enhance the ability to assess needs, advocate, increase choice and support the dignity of older adults, those living with disabilities and their caregivers.*

SERVICES

General Information & Assistance

The Mercer County Office for the Disabled , as a part of the ADRC, provides information on comprehensive services to County residents who have a developmental or physical disability and are designed to provide support for these individuals and/or their families, including:

- Employment
- Housing
- Barrier-free access
- Recreation
- Emergency Preparedness
- Transportation

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assistance

Affords qualified individuals with disabilities safeguards against discrimination based upon disability in employment, state and local government, public accommodations, telecommunications and transportation. ADA-related information and assistance is provided, at no cost, to private and public sector entities as well as the public. Contact our office at **(609) 989-6661** or **7-1-1** NJ Relay Service.

PROGRAMS

Personal Assistance Services Program

The *Personal Assistance Services Program* (PASP) is designed to provide services to individuals with disabilities. These services enable adults that are disabled prepare for employment, attend school or live independently in the community. Services differ from traditional home health services in that they are consumer directed and supervised and are considered to be social, rather than a health care service. Individuals should meet the following eligibility standards:

- a resident of the State of New Jersey
- chronically, physically disabled
- between the ages of 18 through 70
- be self-directing

Developmental Disabilities

The *Mercer County Office for the Disabled - Developmental Disabilities* (MCOD DD) area provides the necessary vocational, personal and social skills to achieve a certain degree of independence, while improving the quality of life for each individual.

To this end, MCOD DD area provides centralized information and referral, as appropriate. Other services such as employment and occupational training services, developmental day care, family support services through respite, clinical services for pre-school children and extensive case management are offered through arrangements made with the appropriate agencies.

Physical Disabilities

Programs that facilitate the provision of community-based recreation and transitional services in integrated settings for County residents with disabilities whose needs are not met through traditional programs are part of the offerings sponsored by this Office. The spectrum of services for this program area includes:

- Information and Referral
- Recreation Opportunities
- Specialized Employment Training
- Job Readiness
- Emergency Preparedness